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PATENT  
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Achim Hofmann et al.

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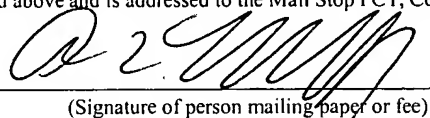
Priority date: 22 March 2004

Title: METHOD FOR PRODUCING AN OPTICAL COMPONENT

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please amend the above application as follows: